Message Text

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FROM YODER AND HEG

E.O. 11652: N/A TAGS: XV TGEN NO

SUBJ: ANTARCTIC RESOURCES: ARGENTINE POSITION

- 1. IN CHANCE MEETING SATURDAY, MINISTER TERESA FLOURET, ARGENTINE CHARGE D'ADPAIRES IN OSLO, EMPHASIZED STRONGLY ARGENTINA'S CONCERN THAT ANTARCTIC RESOURCES QUESTION NOT BE PREEMPTED BY GENEVA LOS CONFERENCE AND THAT THE TWELVE ANTARCTIC TREATY PARTIES DEAL WITH THE RESOURCE QUESTION AMONG THEMSELVES.
- 2. AT PREP COM OPENING SESSION ARGENTINE DEL (AMBASSADOR TO ROMANIA BELTRAMINO) MADE OPENING STATEMENT WHICH SUMMARIZED BELOW:
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NOTHING THAT HAPPENS IN ARGENTINE ANTARCTICA
COULD BE DEVOID OF IMPORTANCE OR SIGNIFICANCE FOR
ARGENTINA. FOR YEARS WE HAVE SHOWN SPIRIT OF
TOLERANCE AND RESTRAINT WITH VIEW TO KEEPING PEACEFUL
COOPERATION WITH COUNTRIES THERE FOR SCIENTIFIC
"OR EVEN ECONOMIC ACTIVITIES."

THIS IS 70TH ANNIVERSARY OF FIRST ARGENTINE-NORWAY ASSOCIATION FOR ECONOMIC EXPLOITATION OF ANTARCTIC MARINE RESOURCES (COMMENT: PRESUMABLY SERVICING AND SUPPLYING NORWEGIAN WHALERS). THIS WAS ACCOMPLISHED WITH DUE RESPECT FOR INTERNATIONAL RULES ADOPTED IN VIEW OF RATIONAL UTILIZATION AND CONSERVATION OF THESE RESOURCES.

IMPLICATIONS OF PRESENT NATURAL RESOURCES QUESTION SO IMPORTANT THEY DESERVE DEEP, COMPREHENSIVE, PRUDENT CONSIDERATION, MUCH MORE THAN QUESTION OF SCIENTIFIC COOPERATION. WHAT IS AT STAKE IS MUCH MORE THAN SURVIVAL OF ANTARCTIC TREATY. WHAT IS AT STAKE IS QUESTION OF RESPECT OF RIGHTS ALREADY ESTABLISHED AND MAINTAINING THE RESPECTIVE PROVISIONS OF ANTARCTIC TREATY, THE DESIRE TO KEEP ANTARCTICA IN THE HANDS OF THE CONTRACTING PARTIES, AND DESIRE THAT ANTARCTICA SHALL NOT BECOME THE SCENE OR OBJECT OF INTERNATIONAL DISCORD.

WE THINK ALL EFFORTS MUST BE MADE IN SINCERE SEARCH FOR REALISTIC, EQUITABLE AND INTELLIGENT FORMULA FOR ECONOMIC ACTIVITIES. TASK CANNOT BE PERFORMED OVERNIGHT. "TO THIS PURPOSE, WE THINK WE HAVE THE RIGHT TO DEMAND TO THE BIG POWERS HERE REPRESENTED, THAT IS TO SAY THE COUNTRIES THAT HAVE IN THEIR HANDS THE MOST IMPORTANT MEANS AND RESOURCES, TO SHOW RESTRAINT, MORE THAN OTHER COUNTRIES, TAKING INTO ACCOUNT WHAT IS AT STAKE. GOOD WILL, INSPIRATION, HARD WORK AND INTENSIVE NEGOTIATIONS AMONG THE CONTRACTING PARTIES ARE WHAT IS NEEDED TO REACH A SATISFACTORY AGREEMENT ON SUCH AN IMPORTANT MATTER."

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WE HAVE ALREADY STARTED CONSULTATIONS WITH CHILE TO EXPLORE POSSIBILITIES OF COOPERATION, TAKING INTO ACCOUNT OUR COMMON INTERESTS IN THE AREA. WE WISH ALSO TO DISCUSS WITH OTHERS BEST WAYS AND MEANS OF COOPERATING IN ANTARCTICA. END SUMMARY

3. CHILEAN REP DID NOT COMMENT ON ARGENTINE STATEMENT OR GIVE ANY INDICATION OF OPPOSITION TO INSCRIPTION

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OF RESOURCES ITEM ON AGENDA. BYRNE		
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